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July 24, 2007

The Honorable David E. Power, Presiding Judge
Superior Court, State of California, County of Solano
Hall of Justice
530 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Judge Power:

Under Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Board of Supervisors is responding to the findings and recommendations in the following 2006/2007 Grand Jury Reports as they pertain to matters under the control of the Board of Supervisors:

- Part I – Solano County Justice Center Detention Facility Inspection;
- Part II – Solano Justice Building Court Holding Facility – Vallejo;
- Part III – Claybank Detention Facility;
- Part IV – Solano County Veterans' Buildings;
- Part V – Solano County Health & Social Services Department In-Home Supportive Services;
- Part VI – Fouts Springs Youth Facilities;
- Part VII – Solano County Food Establishment Inspection;
- Part VIII – Permission to Carry a Concealed Weapon;
- Part IX – Juvenile Detention and New Foundations Facilities; and
- Part X – Solano County Animal Care Services.

The Board's responses are limited to those areas of the respective reports where the County of Solano has responsibility and authority.

In this response, the Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations are listed followed by departmental and then Board of Supervisors' responses.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Reagan, Chairman
Solano County Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

Cc: Grand Jury

Part IV

Solano County Veterans' Buildings

Issued May 7, 2007

Solano County Department of General Services and Board of Supervisors responses to findings and recommendations:

Benicia

Finding 1 – Due to the low height and lack of restraints, the second story windows create a safety hazard.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Services agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1 – The County should expedite this repair.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services agrees with the recommendation. On January 2, 2007 the window replacement work was completed rectifying the potential safety issue.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.

Finding 2 – The ceiling tiles in the upper floor are warped, cracked and stained.

General Services' Response to Finding 2 – General Services agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 2 – The County should replace the tiles.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 2 – General Services disagrees with this recommendation. In accordance with the Operations and Management agreement, minor maintenance and improvements are the responsibility of the Veterans groups managing the facility. Replacement of the tiles is considered minor maintenance and therefore the responsibility of the veterans.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Board agrees with the Department's response to the finding. The recommendation requires further analysis because while the replacement of ceiling tiles is a minor maintenance item that is the responsibility of the Veterans group. The FY2007/08 Budget includes funding for capital renewal projects for the Benicia Veterans building and it is possible that the ceiling tiles could be addressed as part of those improvements.

Dixon

Finding 1 – No decision regarding the restoration or replacement of this building has been made.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Services agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1 – A decision regarding the fate of this building should be made in a timely manner.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services agrees with the recommendation. The County of Solano and the City of Dixon jointly initiated a Modernization Study of the Dixon Veterans Memorial Building to identify repairs/renovation alternatives. The findings within the Modernization Study are being reviewed and the results, along with recommended action items, will be presented to the Solano County Board of Supervisors before the end of calendar year 2007.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation. The Board is encouraged by the City of Dixon's commitment to seek funding to partner with Solano County on a project to rebuild the existing Veterans Hall and is anticipating that General Services will provide concrete recommendations for action in the upcoming months. If the project can not be fully funded, the County will evaluate viable options for a veteran's facility at another location in Dixon.

Rio Vista

Finding 1 – The main entrance is not wheelchair accessible.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Services agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1 – Coordinated efforts should be used to produce an ADA compliant ramp.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services partially agrees with the recommendation. The County's ADA Transition Plan indicates that proper signage, door modifications and hardware replacement are required to make the entry ADA compliant, not a ramp. Funding has been requested as part of the Department's FY 07/08 budget request to make necessary modifications to provide accessibility to the main entrance.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board agrees with the finding. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The County's ADA Transition Plan provides that accessibility via signage, door modifications and new hardware will make the entry ADA compliant, and not necessarily the installation of a ramp.

Finding 2 – Rio Vista Veterans' organizations should be congratulated on their initiative to upgrade and maintain their facility.

General Services' Response to Finding 2 – General Services agrees with the finding. General Services is committed to supporting all County owned veterans memorial buildings in accordance with the Military and Veterans Code and per the terms and conditions of the Operations and Management Agreement in place for each veterans memorial building.

Recommendation 2 – Keep up the good work.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 2 – General Services agrees with the recommendation.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.

Suisun City

Finding 1 – The elevator does not work properly and is out of inspection compliance.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Service disagrees with this finding. The elevator is working properly and the permit to operate is current through November 28, 2007.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding 1 – The Board disagrees with the finding based on the Department of General Services substantiation that the elevator is functioning and properly permitted.

Recommendation 1 – The elevators should be inspected, repaired and certified safe to operate.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services agrees with the recommendation. The elevators are inspected, repaired and certified safe to operate.

Board of Supervisors' Response Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response that the recommendation has been implemented as the elevator has been inspected, repaired and certified safe to operate.

Finding 2 – The building does not have an enclosed dumpster.

General Services' Response to Finding 2 – General Services agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 2 – The County and Veteran's organization should take steps necessary to correct this compliance issue.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 2 – General Services agrees with the recommendation. The design and construction for placement of the dumpster is scheduled for summer 2007.

Board of Supervisors' Response Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.

Vacaville

Finding 1 – The Vacaville Veteran's organizations should be commended for their on-going efforts at maintaining and operating this community oriented asset.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Services agrees with the finding. General Services is committed to supporting all County owned veterans memorial buildings in accordance with the Military and Veterans Code and per the terms and conditions of the Operations and Management Agreement in place for each veterans memorial building.

Recommendation 1 – Keep up the good work

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services agrees with the recommendation.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.

Vallejo

Finding 1 – The security camera that was in front of the building is missing.

General Services' Response to Finding 1 – General Services agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1 – The County should replace the security camera.

General Services' Response to Recommendation 1 – General Services partially agrees with the recommendation. The Veterans' Groups are responsible for maintaining and replacing their own security equipment. However, the County can reimburse the Vallejo Veterans' groups for the cost of replacing the missing camera from funds that were previously allocated per the terms of the executed Settlement Agreement between the County and the Vallejo Veterans Association.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The veterans group needs to replace the missing security camera and then work with General Services to determine the proper process to access reimbursement from settlement funds.